

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 /080 W  
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R 272315Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7953  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 4579

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECIN, PFOR, MX

SUBJ: CLUB OF ROME MEETING IN MEXICO: COMMENT ON GOM ROLE

REF: A. MEXICO 0051; B. MEXICO 2036

1. SUMMARY: GOM OBVIOUSLY GOING FAR BEYOND PROVIDING FACILITIES FOR CLUB OF ROME MEETING SET FOR GUANANJUATO, MEXICO, IN JULY. PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S EARLY GRANDIOSE PLAN INVOLVING 1,000 ATTENDEES INCLUDING 16 CHIEFS OF STATE APPARENTLY SCALED DOWN. DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY HERE HAS MIXED REACTION TO MEETING. WHILE SEVERAL EUROPEAN AMBASSADORS REPORT THEY HAVE BEEN APPROACHED BY FONOFF, NO APPROACH HAS BEEN MADE TO US CONCERNING INVITATIONS TO AMERICANS. EMBASSY CONTINUES TO FEAR (AS REPORTED REF. A). THAT ECHEVERRIA MAY WELL BE PLANNING TO MANIPULATE CLUB OF ROME MEETING TO PROVIDE SOUNDING BOARD FOR DEMOGOGIC CRITICISMS OF DEVELOPED WORLD, PARTICULARLY U.S. EMBASSY INVITES DEPARTMENT COMMENTS.  
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END SUMMARY.

2. AMBASSADOR AND OTHER EMBOFFS HAVE HEARD FROM SEVERAL SOURCES RECENTLY THAT GOM IS MAKING CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TO DIRECT AND TO PLAY UP IMPORTANCE OF CLUB OF ROME MEETINGS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN GUANANJUATO, MEXICO, THIS SUMMER -- TENTATIVELY JULY 23-27. MEXICO IS OBVIOUSLY GOING FAR BEYOND HOST'S ROLE OF PROVIDING FACILITIES TO CLUB OF ROME AND MAY WELL BE TRYING TO INFLUENCE SUBSTANCE AND MAKEUP OF MEETING IN AN ATTEMPT TO TILT IT IN THIRD WORLD DIRECTION. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THESE ACTIONS BEING TAKEN UNDER ORDERS FROM PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, BUT BEING COORDINATED AT WORKING LEVEL BY FOREIGN OFFICE UNDER SECRETARY RUBEN GONZALEZ SOSA AND HIS STAFF. (THERE IS ALSO SOME INDICATION THAT SECRETARY NATIONAL PATRIMONY ALEJO IS ATTEMPTING PLAY ROLE IN INVITATIONS TO MEETING.) MEANWHILE, DR. VICTOR URQUIDI, MEXICAN ACADEMIC FIGURE ASSOCIATED WITH CLUB OF ROME, IS ON ROUND-THE-WORLD TRIP WHICH WILL LAST UNTIL MID-JUNE, AND IS LEAVING FONOFF IN CHARGE OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MEETING.

3. TO CITE SPECIFIC EXAMPLES AND TO DEMONSTRATE CONFUSION IN DIPLOMATIC RANKS HERE: A) AMBASSADOR WAS TOLD BY BRITISH AMBASSADOR THAT GONZALEZ SOSA HAD ASKED HIM TO CONVEY INVITATION FOR OFFICIAL UK REPRESENTATION, AND THAT IN RESPONSE HMG PLANS SEND DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC FIGURE AS OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE; B) DCM INFORMED BY DUTCH COUNSELOR THAT GONZALEZ SOSA ASKED DUTCH EMBASSY TO EXTEND INVITATION TO MINISTER FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, JAN PRONK, BUT LATTER DECLINED SINCE WILL ATTEND WICWY IN MEXICO IN JUNE. FRG COUNSELOR SAID GONZALEZ SOSA TOLD HIM PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA ORIGINALLY WANTED TO HOST A HEADS-OF-GOVERNMENT MEETING BUT THEN (WITH EXCEPTIONS NOTED BELOW) LOWERED SIGHTS TO MINISTERIAL LEVEL. BAHR WAS INVITED BUT DECLINED. HOWEVER, BRANDT DURING RECENT VISIT TO MEXICO AGREED TO URGE THAT SOME SPD MINISTER ATTEND; C) E/C COUNSELOR IN LONG TALK WITH SWEDISH AMBASSADOR LEARNED THAT IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT CLUB OF ROME INTENDS TO INVITE STATESMAN ACTIVELY  
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CONSCIOUS OF WORLD PROBLEMS, AND WHO ALSO HAVE THE POWER BASE IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THEM (SWEDE OPINED THAT WHILE THERE WERE MANY AMERICANS WHO FIT ONE CATEGORY OR ANOTHER, COMBINATION OF QUALITIES SOUGHT BY CLUB OF ROME WAS RATHER HARD TO FIND IN U.S.; D) HOWEVER, IN CONVERSATION WITH UK COUNSELOR, OUR POL COUNSELOR WAS TOLD THAT AN UNNAMED U.S. SENATOR AS WELL AS ANOTHER UNIDENTIFIED AMERICAN

HAD ALREADY BEEN INVITED; E) EMBECONOFF WAS TOLD BY AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR THAT KREISKY WAS STILL ANNOYED BY ECHEVERRIA INTER ALIA FOR HAVING INVITED HIMSELF ON STATE VISIT TO VIENNA AFTER SALZBURG CLUB OF ROME MEETING, AND WOULD PREFER NOT TO COME TO MEXICO, BUT MAY HAVE TO DO SO FOR COURTESY REASON IF INVITED BY CLUB OF ROME IN HIS ROLE AS HOST OF SALZBURG MEETINGS. AUSTRIAN ADDED THAT SEVERAL (UNIDENTIFIED) EUROPEANS WERE MOST ANNOYED BY MEXICAN EFFORTS "CONTROL" GUANAJUATO MEETING.

4. IN SPITE OF ACTIVE FONOFF EFFORTS REPORTED ABOVE, NO APPROACH HAS BEEN MADE TO THIS EMBASSY IN REGARD TO THE MEETING, AND WORKING-LEVEL EFFORTS TO DISCOVER ROUTINE DETAILS HAVE MET WITH ONLY LIMITED SUCCESS. IT HAS BEEN LEARNED THAT THEME OF MEETING IS CLUB OF ROME'S NEW BOOK "MANKIND AT THE TURNING POINT" AND THAT AGENDA WILL BE BASED ON BOOK'S THEMES. AGENDA WILL STRESS THIRD WORLD CONCERNS IN AREAS AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES AND NATURAL RESOURCES, WITH DEVELOPED WORLD BEING CALLED UPON TO ADOPT NEW ATTITUDES IN FACE WORLD FOOD AND ECONOMIC CRISIS. CITY OF GUANAJUATO WILL BE "AT DISPOSITION" OF CLUB OF ROME, AND SOME 500 INVITEES ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND, INCLUDING PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU, AND "SEVERAL" THIRD WORLD HEADS OF STATE. (NOTE: THIS IS SCALED DOWN FROM ECHEVERRIA DESIRE REPORTED MEXICO 0051 FOR 1,000 PERSONS WITH SOME 16 HEADS OF STATE.)

5. COMMENT: INTENSIVE GOM ACTIVITY REPORTED ABOVE TENDS CONFIRM EMBASSY SUSPICIONS REPORTED REF A THAT ECHEVERRIA MAY WELL BE PLANNING ATTEMPT MANIPULATE CLUB OF ROME MEETING TO CONTINUE HIS RECENT HECTORING, CONFIDENTIAL

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ALMOST DEMOGOGIC CRITICISMS OF "RICH NATIONS," PARTICULARLY U.S. (MEXICO 4437). IT GOES ALMOST WITHOUT SAYING THAT GUANAJUATO MEETING WILL PROVIDE PLENTIFUL OPPORTUNITIES FOR BOOSTING ECHEVERRIA'S CHARGE OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES (CERDS) AND FOR MEXICO TO ADVANCE THIRD WORLD VIEWS ON NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER. WE INVITE DEPARTMENT COMMENTS ON THIS MATTER, ESPECIALLY ITS VIEWS ON POSSIBLE USEFULNESS HIGH-LEVEL INQUIRIES AS TO GOM PLANS FOR MEETING (E.G. AMBASSADOR CALLING ON UNDERSECRETARY GONZALEZ SOSA TO SEEK FURTHER INFORMATION). DEPT. MAY ALSO WISH CONSIDER WHETHER CONTACTS WITH CERTAIN CLUB OF ROME EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS (POSSIBLY INCLUDING PECCEI) MIGHT SERVE MITIGATE PROBLEM AND STEER MEETING IN USEFUL DIRECTION, OR AT LEAST AWAY

FROM AREA OVERLY CRITICAL OF U.S.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETINGS, INVITATIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 MEXICO 0051, 75 MEXICO 2036  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <02 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <07 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CLUB OF ROME MEETING IN MEXICO: COMMENT ON GOM ROLE  
**TAGS:** ECIN, PFOR, MX, US, CLUB OF ROME  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006